

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

Claims 1-37 (Cancelled)

38. (Currently Amended) A purified and isolated hyperimmune serum-reactive *S. pneumoniae* antigen that is immunologically reactive with sera from a human having an *S. pneumoniae* infection or an uninfected healthy human, the antigen comprising an isolated *S. pneumoniae* polypeptide or peptide fragment thereof that is Sp 2216 having an amino acid sequence identified by SEQ ID NO. 243.

39. (Withdrawn) An *S. pneumoniae* antigen according to claim 38, wherein the antigen is an isolated *S. pneumoniae* polypeptide that is Sp1732 (SEQ ID NO. 214).

40. (Withdrawn) An *S. pneumoniae* antigen according to claim 38, wherein the antigen is an isolated *S. pneumoniae* polypeptide that is Sp 2216 (SEQ ID NO. 243).

41. (Currently Amended) An *S. pneumoniae* antigen according to claim 38, wherein the antigen is an isolated fragment ~~comprising~~ defined by amino acids 1-285 of *S. pneumoniae* polypeptide Sp 2216 having an amino acid sequence identified by (SEQ ID NO. 243) SEQ ID NO. 243.

42. (Withdrawn) An *S. pneumoniae* antigen according to claim 39, wherein the antigen is a fragment of the isolated *S. pneumoniae* polypeptide comprising amino acids 9-18, 24-46, 51-58, 67-77, 85-108, 114-126, 129-137, 139-146, 152-165, 173-182, 188-195, 197-204, 217-250, 260-274, 296-313, 343-366, 368-384, 427-434, 437-446, 449-455, 478-484, 492-506, 522-527, 562-591, 599-606, 609-618, 625-631, 645-652 or 577-654 of SEQ ID NO. 214.

43. (Currently Amended) An *S. pneumoniae* antigen according to claim 40, wherein the antigen is a fragment of the isolated *S. pneumoniae* polypeptide ~~comprising~~ defined by amino acids 4-25, 52-67, 117-124, 131-146, 173-180, 182-191, 195-206, 215-221, 229-236, 245-252, 258-279, 286-291, 293-302, 314-320, 327-336, 341-353, 355-361, ~~or 383-389,~~ 15-37, 32-57, 101-151, 115-135, 138-158, 152-172, 220-242 or 236-258 of SEQ ID NO. 243.

44. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one antigen according to any of claims 38, ~~39, 40,~~ 41, ~~42,~~ or 43 and optionally a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier or excipient.

45. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 44, further comprising an immunostimulatory substance.

46. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 45, wherein the immunostimulatory substance is a polycationic polymer, an immunostimulatory deoxynucleotide (ODN), a peptide containing at least two Lys-Leu-Lys motifs, a neuroactive compound, alum, or a Freund's complete or incomplete adjuvant.

47. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 46, wherein the polycationic polymer is a polycationic peptide.

48. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 44 that is a vaccine.

49. (Withdrawn) An antibody or immunologically active fragment thereof that is immunologically specific for an antigen according to claims 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, or 43.

50. (Withdrawn) An antibody according to claim 49 that is a monoclonal antibody

51. (Withdrawn) An immunologically-active fragment of an antibody according to claim 49 that is an F(ab), F(ab)', F(ab)₂ or F_v fragment.

52. (Withdrawn) An antibody according to claim 49 that is a human antibody or a humanized antibody.

53. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing an antibody that is immunologically specific for an antigen according to claims 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, or 43, comprising the steps of inoculating an animal with a immunostimulatory amount of said antigen, isolating spleen cells from said animal after a time sufficient to raise an antibody in said animal, fusing the spleen cells with an

immortalized cell line to produce antibody-producing fusion cells, and selecting fusion cells that produce an antibody that is immunologically specific for said antigen.

54. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or a plurality of antibodies according to claim 49 and optionally a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier or excipient.

55. (Withdrawn) A method for diagnosing infection with *Streptococcus* in an animal comprising the step of identifying in a tissue or biological fluid of the animal a *Streptococcus* antigen comprising a polypeptide or fragment, wherein the antigen is identified by contacting the antigen with an antibody according to claim 49.

56. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 55 wherein the *Streptococcus* infection is caused by *S. pneumoniae*.

57. (Withdrawn) A method for treating infection with *Streptococcus* in an animal comprising the step of administering to the animal a therapeutically-effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 54.

58. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 57 wherein the *Streptococcus* infection is caused by *S. pneumoniae*.

59. (Withdrawn) A method for immunizing an animal against *Streptococcus* infection comprising the step of administering to the animal a vaccine according to claim 48.

60. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 59 wherein the *Streptococcus* infection is caused by *S. pneumoniae*.

61. (Withdrawn) A method for stimulating an immune response in an animal against *Streptococcus*, the method comprising the step of administering to the animal an immunogenic amount of a vaccine according to claim 48.

62. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 61 wherein the immune response in an animal is against *S. pneumoniae*.

63. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 62, further comprising the step of administering an immunostimulatory substance to the animal.

64. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 63, wherein the immunostimulatory substance is a polycationic polymer, an immunostimulatory deoxynucleotide (ODN), a peptide containing at least two Lys-Leu-Lys motifs, a neuroactive compound, alum, or a Freund's complete or incomplete adjuvant.

65. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 64, wherein the polycationic polymer is a polycationic peptide.

66. (Withdrawn) A method according to claims 55, 57, 59, or 61 wherein the animal is a human.

67. (Withdrawn) A method for diagnosing infection with *Streptococcus* in an animal comprising the step of identifying in a tissue or biological fluid of the animal an antibody that is immunologically specific for a *Streptococcus* antigen, wherein the antibody is identified by contacting the tissue or biological fluid with an antigen according to claim 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, or 43.

68. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 67 wherein the *Streptococcus* infection is caused by *S. pneumoniae*.